

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please add the following new claims:

1. (Original) Silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas, characterised by groups fixed to the surface, wherein the groups are alkylsilyl ($\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$, with $n=2-18$).
2. (Original) Silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas according to claim 1, characterised in that the pyrogenically produced silicas have been treated with the compound $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiC}_{16}\text{H}_{33}$ (hexadecyltrimethoxysilane).
3. (Original) Silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas according to claim 1, characterised in that the pyrogenically produced silicas have been treated with the compound $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiC}_8\text{H}_{17}$ (octyltrimethoxysilane).
4. (Currently Amended) Process for the production of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas according to ~~claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that the pyrogenically produced silicas are placed in a mixer, the silicas are sprayed, optionally first with water and then with the compound from the group $(\text{RO})_3\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$ while mixing intensively, mixed for a further 15 to 30 minutes and then tempered at a temperature of 100 to 160°C for a period of 1 to 3 hours, structurally modified and/or optionally post-ground.

5. (Currently Amended) Process for the production of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas according to claim 4,

characterised in that an additional tempering is allowed to follow the ~~stuctural~~ structural modification and/or post-grinding.

6. (Original) Use of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silicas to improve the scratch resistance of lacquers.

7. (New) A silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica, having alkylsilyl groups of the formula $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$, with $n=2 - 18$.

8. (New) The silanised structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to Claim 7, having the following physical chemical properties:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| BET surface area | 25-400 m ² /g |
| Average size of primary particles | 5-50 nm |
| pH value | 3-10 |
| Carbon content | 0.1-25% |
| DBP value in % | at least 10% lower than the DBP value of a corresponding silanised, non-structurally modified silica |

9. (New) The silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to Claim 7, wherein the pyrogenically produced silica has been treated with the compound $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiC}_{16}\text{H}_{33}$.

10. (New) The silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to Claim 7, wherein the pyrogenically produced silica has been treated with the compound $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiC}_8\text{H}_{17}$.

11. (New) A process for the production of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to Claim 7, comprising placing the pyrogenically produced silica in a mixer, spraying the silica, optionally first with water, and then spraying with

a compound having the formula $(RO)_3SiC_nH_{2n+1}$ wherein n is 2 to 18 and R is alkyl, while mixing intensively, mixing for a further 15 to 30 minutes and then tempering at a temperature of 100 to 160°C for a period of 1 to 3 hours, structurally modifying and/or optionally post-grinding.

12. (New) The process for the production of the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica according to Claim 11, further comprising additionally tempering following structural modification and/or post-grinding.

13. (New) The process according to Claim 11, wherein structurally modifying takes place by ball milling.

14. (New) The process according to Claim 11, wherein post grinding takes place by using an air-jet mill or pin mill.

15. (New) The process according to Claim 12, wherein tempering takes place in a drying cupboard or in a fluidized bed.

16. (New) The process according to Claim 15, wherein the tempering takes place under protective gas.

17. (New) A lacquer containing the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica of Claim 1.

18. (New) A lacquer containing the silanised, structurally modified, pyrogenically produced silica of Claim 7.

19. (New) A surface having applied thereto a coating produced from the lacquer of Claim 17.

20. (New) The surface according to Claim 19, which is metal.